



The Abrazo

The newsletter of Maryland Episcopal Cursillo

Fall 2008

REFLECTIONS

Steve French - Retiring Lay Director

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ ...Well, as of this year's Annual Ultreya, I return to the FOLD - **F**ormerly **O**ld **L**ay **D**irectors!

This is my last article as your Lay Director. Emerson asked me if I would give a summary of what I have done while I have been Lay Director. I have spent a great deal of time praying and thinking about what God wants me to say, so here goes:

In Ecc 3:1, we read, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven."

When I became LD, people would ask, "When is the next weekend?" "Do you know where the next 4th Day workshop is?" "I heard it is at St. Martin." "No, I heard it was at St. James Lothian." "On the 16th?" "The 9th?"

There was a perception that if you made a suggestion, then ONLY YOU had to do it ... it was YOURS - FOREVER.

People would *emphatically* say to me, "I'm not a leader. Besides, who would teach me?" Or, they would say, "Well, that's the way we've ALWAYS done it!"

I'm sure that you have heard some, if not all of these in recent history.

I have come to understand that each leader has his or her own purpose from God. I have been blessed to see many Lay Directors at work: Bill Fausnaught was the first lay director to publish a diocesan-wide directory for Cursillo so that people could be connected that had never been able to connect before. At the Bishop's direction, Joyce Chabot and Jeanne Cushing facilitated the process of initially exporting Cursillo to Ghana, and worked with the communities there to further establish

their 4th Day. Pat Arey continues this ministry in supporting additional teams and gathering resources from the community. Pete Finne's time was directed at changing the focus back to our own diocese. Then, I was called as Lay Director.

I was the first Lay Director to serve in the extended 4-year term. Each of my predecessors only had 1 year as Assistant Lay Director, then one year as Lay Director, which did not really give anyone as much time to accomplish all the many things I know they wanted to carry through. But, because with God ANYTHING is possible, much *was* achieved during their terms. With the *extended* term, I was given the additional blessing of time - to further where God was calling this movement to grow and where He was leading me in leadership for Cursillo. So, I had to prayerfully discern what gifts God had given me to use in this ministry, and for me, it was clear: organization and training.

In wrote very early on in an *Abrazo* article that I was blessed to be told the focus of my ministry in Cursillo would be: ***Renew, Rebuild, and Rejoice.***

MANY things in Cursillo have been renewed. We are challenged to give our best to God because God gave HIS BEST to us. Each of us - as individuals, as leaders, and as a community - has been called to renew our commitment to this movement. So, how have I forwarded this goal as Lay Director?

I first had to help renew the faith the Community had in the Secretariat by demonstrating how much they knew and did for the MEC. We accomplished this by standardizing the Weekend dates (which are now the same time EVERY year); standardizing the dates for 4th day workshops; "Getting back to Basics" in refocusing weekends to

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MARYLAND EPISCOPAL CURSILLO - WEEKEND 96

THE CANDIDATES

CANDIDATE	PARISH	SPONSOR(s) / CO-SPONSOR	SPONSOR'S PARISH
Barney B.	Christ Church, Port Republic	Murray & Mary Ann Cheston / Evelyn DeLuca	Christ Church, Port Republic
Susan B.	St. Anne's, Annapolis	Elizabeth McNulty	St. Anne's, Annapolis
Anne B.	St. Mark's, Lappans	Edward Maloy / Liz Brodell	St. Mark's, Lappans
Linda D.	St. John's, Frostburg	Donald Goldbloom / Ruth Goldbloom	St. John's, Frostburg
Jennifer D.	Christ Church, West River	Shelly Collinson / Saundra Cordingly+	Christ Church, West River
Cory E.	St. Mark's, Lappans	Kirk DeVore / Angela Eyler	St. Mark's, Lappans
James F.	St. Luke's, Annapolis	Mary Beth Dent / Mary Ellen Brooks	St. Luke's, Annapolis
Karen G.	St. Margaret's, Annapolis	Pat Hall / Jim Hall	St. Margaret's, Annapolis
Jason G.	St. John's, Frostburg	Donald Goldbloom / Ruth Goldbloom	St. John's, Frostburg
Warren H.	St. James, Lothian	Charles Wolf	St. James, Lothian
Chris H.	St. James', Lothian	Woody Wooddell / JoEllen Kelly	St. James', Lothian
Patricia H.	St. James', Lothian	Nancy Wooddell / JoEllen Kelly	St. James', Lothian
Amanda K.	St. James', Lothian	Charles McClunin / Nancy McClunin	St. James', Lothian
John K.	St. James', Lothian	Charles McClunin / Nancy McClunin	St. James', Lothian
Nola M.	St. James', Lothian	Ron & Jeanne Zselvay	St. James', Lothian
Sherry O.	Christ the King, Woodlawn	Laura Lake	Christ the King, Woodlawn
Melanie R.	St. Thomas', Towson	Lynn French	St. Thomas', Towson
Edlu T.	St. James, Lothian	Charles Wolf	St. James, Lothian



MARYLAND EPISCOPAL CURSILLO - WEEKEND 96

Unending Love - Amazing Grace □ November 6-9, 2008 □ Claggett Center

Nancy Horkan, Rector, MD 96

During our team formation, we have prayed together, supported each other, learned from each other, practiced our Rollos, raised our voices in song, and enjoyed each other's company with plenty of laughter. The MD 96 team is well prepared and ready for the weekend!! Our song for the weekend, *Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone*, and our theme, *Unending Love, Amazing Grace*, are reflective of what the team has felt as we continue to experience the Holy Spirit working through us.

It was truly a joy to be commissioned at the Diocesan Ultreya by Bishop Sutton and a blessing to share it with many of you. On behalf of the entire team, thank you for all the prayers we have felt along the way, and for answering God's call to reach out to send us candidates. We humbly ask that you continue to pray for us throughout the weekend – the most important palanca of all. You can also support us by sending: palanca notes to the candidates and team members, food palanca (including healthy snacks), beverages, and of course green palanca is always welcome.

We look forward to seeing your smiling faces on November 9 at 6:45 a.m. and at Clausura at 3:45 p.m.

God Bless You!!
— **Nancy Horkan**

TEAM MEMBER	PARISH	ROLE	ROLLO
<i>Nancy Horkan</i>	St. James', Lothian	Rector	Ultreya
<i>Jim Hall</i>	St. Margaret's, Annapolis	Ass't Rector	Group Reunion
<i>Marjie Mack</i>	St. James', Lothian	Head Cha	
<i>Alex Dzbinski</i>	St. Thomas', Towson	Music Director	Study
<i>The Rev. Pat Arey</i>	St. Phillip's, Annapolis	Spiritual Advisor	Faith, Obstacles to a Life in Grace
<i>The Rev. Sandy Cordingly</i>	Christ Church, West River	Spiritual Advisor	Sacraments I, Living the Christian Life
<i>The Rev. Bill Ticknor</i>	St. James', Lothian	Spiritual Advisor	Grace, Sacraments II
<i>Sam Alger</i>	Christ the King, Woodlawn	Table Leader	Ideal
<i>Donna Anderson</i>	St. Thomas', Towson	Table Leader	
<i>Tim Anderson</i>	St. Thomas', Towson	Cha	Christian Community in Action
<i>Ruth Anne Champion</i>	St. Thomas', Towson	Ass't Music Director	
<i>Sandy Hall</i>	Christ Church, Port Republic	Cha	
<i>Donna Kerner</i>	St. Mark's, Highland	Cha	Leaders
<i>Joe Kerner</i>	St. Mark's, Highland	Table Leader	
<i>Liz Miller</i>	Middleham & St. Peter's, Lusby	Cha	
<i>Bruce Neumann</i>	St. John's, Hagarstown	Cha	
<i>Meghan Neumann</i>	St. John's, Hagarstown	Cha	Study & Evangelization of Environments
<i>Laura Richardson</i>	St. Andrew's, Pasadena	Table Leader	Laity
<i>Renee Wilson</i>	St. James', Lothian	Table Leader	Piety
<i>Nancy Wooddell</i>	St. James', Lothian	Cha	
<i>Woody Wooddell</i>	St. James', Lothian	Table Leader	Action

Diocesan Ultreya Held October 11th *State of the Maryland Episcopal Cursillo*

The Annual Diocesan Ultreya was held at the Bishop Claggett Center on Saturday, October 11th. Bishop Eugene Sutton was present to Commission the Team for MD 96 and affirm his support for the Maryland Cursillo Movement. During the meeting, Tim Welden was elected as the MEC Assistant Lay Director, and Emerson Champion assumed the responsibilities as MEC Lay Director. Following are the remarks made by Emerson on the State of the Maryland Episcopal Cursillo. - Editor

Emerson Champion - Incoming Lay Director (Retiring Assistant Lay Director)

When I lived my Cursillo weekend, I had no idea that, ten years later, I would find myself being commissioned as the MEC Lay Director. God knew, however. “You’re asking me to do WHAT, God? Are you sure? Okay...”

In this, I am blessed to be in relationship with many, many people. One of those people is Steve French. Steve has poured his heart and soul into Maryland Episcopal Cursillo. He has mentored many people, not the least of which is me. He leads by example, and his leadership has brought renewal and recommitment to the movement. I am humbled and honored to be able to call him a friend and a brother; not just for a season, but for a lifetime.

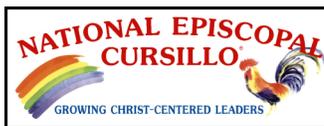
As Steve mentioned earlier, our overall goal is to grow Cursillo. What do we mean by “grow”? To many, that means increase our numbers. To an extent, that is true; there are many parishes in the diocese that have no active Cursillistas. There are also parishes that once had many active Cursillistas, but now do not.

Another aspect of growth is growing our relationship with God and each other. Steve drove home to the leadership the importance of building relationships through personal contact. In Cursillo, we do this by intentional participation in grouping and Ultreya, and by prayerfully sponsoring appropriate candidates.

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National Episcopal Cursillo - Officers Elected

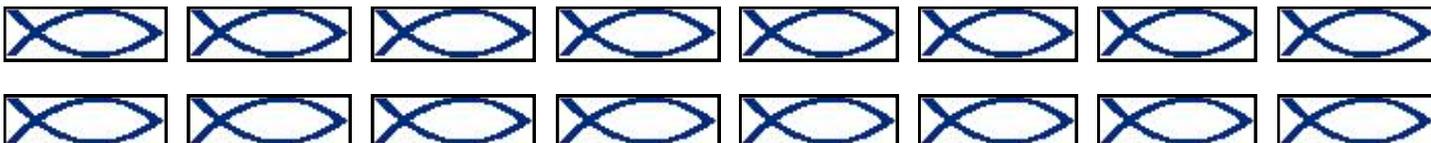
The members of the National Episcopal Cursillo Committee (NECC) gathered on Thursday, July 24, at St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church in Snellville, Georgia, for the third quarterly meeting of the year. Thom Neal, from Upper South Carolina, was elected President-Elect; Mother Pat Miller, from Western Missouri, was elected Secretary. Denny Walters, from San Diego, was elected Vice President. Congratulations to the new national officers who have been called to serve and who will assume their responsibilities in October at the 2008 Cursillo Seminar (please see additional event information below).



2008 Cursillo Seminar - Come to the Waters



“Come to the Waters” is the theme for Seminar 2008 to be held in Daytona Beach, FL, October 23-26. This year’s keynote speaker will be the Reverend Tom Ehrich. Events will include worship and singing, fellowship, small groups, workshops, and the Holy Eucharist. It is not too late to make plans. Cost for the seminar is \$200. Information about the Seminar and registration forms are available on-line at www.episcopalcursillo.org, or from the National Episcopal Cursillo Office.



(State of MEC... continued from page 4)

In last year's "State of Cursillo" report, we talked about the challenges that we face. Among them were financial shortfalls, unfilled leadership positions, and declining attendance at Ultreyas. While all of these areas have been addressed, more work is needed.

This past summer, MEC started a stewardship campaign. All Cursillistas were asked to prayerfully consider an ongoing pledge to Cursillo. Since Cursillo is not a parish, we don't have same expenses or outreach programs that a parish does, but we do have needs. Much of our money goes towards weekend expenses. While Team members pay their own weekend fees, donations from the community cover all but \$50.00 of candidate fees. Other expenses include materials for 4th Day Workshops, licensing fees for music, the Abrazo newsletter, and financial support of National Episcopal Cursillo. Our heartfelt thanks go to those who have made an ongoing pledge to Cursillo. If you have not, we ask you to prayerfully consider it.

In looking at the growth of leadership in this last year, we have indeed been very blessed. God has called the following people to leadership positions:

- The Rev. Becki Neumann has been appointed Spiritual Advisor to the Secretariat; previously, she served as Spiritual Advisor to the Servant Community.
- The Rev. Marshall Thompson has been appointed Spiritual Advisor to the Servant Community.
- Dick Mitchell has been appointed Treasurer.
- Debbie Bargar has been appointed Comptroller.
- Jim Stultz was elected Metro South Area Representative.
- Earl Buffaloe was elected Southern Area Representative.
- Robyn Mayfield has been appointed Pre-Cursillo Representative.
- Liz Brodell has been appointed Palanca Coordinator.
- Pamela Blyth has been appointed Editor for *The Abrazo* newsletter.

Thanks Be To GOD for these good and faithful servants! The following leadership positions are still open:

- Northeast Area Representative; elected by the Ultreyas in the Northeast area. This area includes Harford County. Right now there are no Ultreyas in that area. So, if someone feels called to be the area representative, the Servant Community and Secretariat will help facilitate an Ultreya to get things moving.
- Metro North Area Representative; elected by the Ultreyas in the Metro North area. This area focuses on Northern Baltimore County.
- And a job I have been called into for several years now is Communications Coordinator; who is appointed by the Servant Community Director and Lay Director.

All of these positions are supported and mentored by other leaders - past and present - in the movement. The term of office for all of these positions is for 2 years. The terms of several positions will end in 2009. They are: the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Central Area Representative, the Weekend Coordinator, and the Servant Community Director. While the bylaws allow for a second 2 year term, God may well call these good and faithful servants elsewhere. I encourage all of you to prayerfully consider these positions. How else can you serve God in being a leader in Cursillo? What are your talents? What are your interests? Let us know by filling out the resource form and sending it to Lynn French. The choice is yours ... to fill out the form ... to get involved ... and to listen and follow where God is calling you.

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MARYLAND EPISCOPAL CURSILLO 97

The MEC has called **Kathy Dzbinski** to be the Rector for Weekend 97 to be held April 23 -26, 2009. She asks for our continued prayers as she builds her team. If you are interested in being called to serve on the Team for Weekend 97 and would like to learn more, please check out the information and team applications at <http://www.cursillo.ang-md.org/teaminfo.htm> And remember, is not too early to be thinking about Candidates for this weekend! Candidate applications can also be found on the website at <http://www.cursillo.ang-md.org/pdf/CandidateApp.pdf> DeColores!



Maryland Cursillo is Calling YOU

Pamela Blyth, *Abrazo* Editor

What are your gifts? How has God blessed you in ways that you share with the Maryland Episcopal Cursillo?

Many of us have fond memories of singing the lines, "This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine!" But over time, we may have begun to take our own gifts for granted, often underestimating them or the contributions we can make.

Maryland Cursillo needs and values every one of us and welcomes our participation. Your gifts are needed to make a difference in the lives of so many others.

Whether it's baking, sewing, organizing projects, giving witness talks, helping with art projects, preparing food, serving on a leadership team, assisting with the Agape, writing articles, helping coordinate an Ultreya, or just making a joyful noise, YOUR participation is valued and needed!

You'll find a *Resource List* on page 10 of this issue of the *Abrazo*. Please take a few minutes to read through this information and prayerfully consider where and how your light can shine on the Maryland Cursillo Movement!

Ultreya!
— **Pamela Blyth**

Here I Am Lord, Is It I ?

Lynn French, *Weekend Representative*

This is one of my favorite lines from a hymn sung in my heart more times than I can count. And that is what I am asking you to give time to in prayer – asking, "Is it I?"

Serving on a Cursillo team has been for me, and for many I have spoken with, a huge blessing, both for myself and for those with whom I have had the privilege of journeying through the team process as well as the weekend experience.

If you feel God nudging you to say yes, please take the time to fill out a team application and send it to me. I will keep it on file for three years as is the policy of the Maryland Episcopal Cursillo (MEC). Each time a Rector is called to lead a team, your application will be in the file so that you have the opportunity of being contacted and asked to prayerfully consider serving on that team. Often, when asking people "Do you have a team application on file?" they tell me they're just not sure they're ready to serve on a team. My answer is that if you never say, "HERE I AM LORD is it I?" and send in your application, then it is very difficult for you to be actually called, since the rector can only call those with applications on file per policy of the MEC.

You can access information about serving on a team as well as a Team Application Form online at <http://www.cursillo.ang-md.org/teaminfo.htm>

Please take time to pray and follow what you hear God calling you to do. If you have any questions about team responsibilities or the selection process, you may contact me at lynmf@aol.com or 443-865-4258, or drop me a note at 35 Dihedral Drive, Middle River, MD 21220.

Blessings and DeColores
— **Lynn French**

Episcopal Cyber Sources

The National Episcopal Cursillo
<http://www.episcopalcursillo.org/>

The Maryland Episcopal Cursillo Website
<http://www.cursillo.ang-md.org/>

Other Episcopal Cursillo Websites
<http://www.episcopalcursillo.org/episcopalwebsites>

The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland
<http://www.ang-md.org/>

The Maryland Episcopal Church Locator
<http://www.ang-md.org/search.php>

The Episcopal Church
<http://www.episcopalchurch.org/>

Wooden Cursillo Crosses

Our resource for the wooden Cursillo cross that we use in Maryland has gone out of business. After searching the internet for another source, I have come up empty handed. If you have the talent and an interest in making crosses for the Maryland Cursillo community, or if you would like more information, please contact me no later than July 1, 2008, at 443-865-4258 or lynmf@aol.com

The above article is a copy from the last Abrazo. Sadly, I received only one response and it referred me to web sites with similar wooden crosses. The crosses available did not have the same measurements and weren't designed with DeColores.

Please contact me if you know of anyone (in or out of Cursillo) who could make the wooden cross at a reasonable price. The design and eyelet for the cord could be added later.

I look forward to hearing from a hidden carpenter in the community soon!

Thanks and DeColores!
— **Lynn French**

Christ is counting on You ... And I on Christ!



Prayer for the Gift of the Holy Spirit

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful and kindle
in us the fire of Your Love.*

*Send forth Your Spirit and we shall be created, and You
shall renew the face of the earth.*

*O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit did instruct the
hearts of the faithful,*

*Grant that by the same Holy Spirit
We may be truly wise and ever enjoy Your consolations;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Amen

(State of MEC ... continued from page 5)

Declining participation in grouping and Ultreya has been a tough nut to crack. One of the reasons each of us was asked to make our Cursillo weekend is that we are already leaders in our parishes. We serve on the vestry, we sing in the choir, we teach Christian Education classes, we serve on Diocesan committees. Our life outside our parish is just as busy. We run the kids to school and then to after school activities. We go to appointments. Our day jobs demand more and more of our time. And yet, we're asking you to fit another weekly and monthly meeting into your life? Well, yes. That's because the heart of Cursillo is not the weekend; it's the 4th Day. Grouping and Ultreya are excellent tools to help us strengthen our relationship with God and with each other. We support each other, we uplift each other, we pray for each other. We praise God together in good times and bad.

There is monthly Ultreya in most areas of the diocese. Since last year's annual Ultreya, the Westminster area has explored restarting their Ultreya. Western Maryland now has 2 new Ultreyas, one in Frostburg, and one at St. Mark's in Lappans. We are starting to see more candidates and team members come from these areas. That is a dynamic that can only continue to grow.

Another ongoing area of concern is sponsorship. As you know, due to a lack of applications, the decision was made to extend the Maryland 96 candidate application deadline. I am pleased to announce that there are now enough candidates for Maryland 96 to go forward. Even so, this waiting until the last minute to submit applications must end. In the future, we will not extend the deadline. Each weekend team needs the month prior to the weekend to prepare for the candidates, and sponsors need at least that much time to prepare their candidates.

The declining number of candidates is a disturbing trend. While it is true that "a number is just a number," there is a threshold beneath which the message and method of the weekend is severely impaired. If this downward trend continues, there is a very real possibility that a weekend may get canceled. That is something no one wants. Another possibility is that the Secretariat may face the difficult decision of holding only one weekend a year. That, too, is something no one wants.

So, what to do? Please pray intentionally about whom God wants us to sponsor, and to act early in the cycle. Look around your parish. Pray about these people, and make personal contact. Waiting until the last minute to identify candidates, then rushing to get their application submitted, does not serve anyone well.

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(Reflections ... continued from page 1)

the Authentic NEC weekend model; and standardizing the information given to candidates and sponsors to help them better prepare. I have been told by the past several rectors how well prepared the candidates have been coming to the weekend. I applaud the tenacity of the sponsors in living up to that challenge before, during, and after the weekends. We've also continued the Annual Ultreya thus allowing each fall team to be commissioned with the prayers and support of the larger Community.

Because I felt called to help renew the faith of potential leaders and allow them to step forward in faith knowing they are not alone, the expectation and application of active and intentional mentoring became a reality as we developed, wrote, and presented Area Representative training to six Area Representatives. We created formal mentoring for and between Weekend Rectors, 4th Day Coordinators, and other leaders coming into the movement. Communication was further opened up and questions and ideas encouraged, and we strengthened existing and initiated new relationships between SEC and SC members as a collaborative and interactive community.

There were many things that needed to be REBUILT, too. Some of the policies and practices of Cursillo had become outdated and unrealistic. The Secretariat was challenged to look at where Cursillo was, and where we wanted to go. There have been changes in our culture that facilitated the need to develop policies to address situations we had never had to manage before, from compliance with music regulations to maintaining safe and positive environments for all Cursillo activities.

The most important thing I felt compelled to work at was the CULTURE of Cursillo. Many of you have heard me say, many times, "The MOST important thing about a Cursillo weekend is **not** the weekend, but living in the 4th day." Or, "God does not keep us where we are comfortable." And, "It's NOT about the STUFF ... Cursillo is about the PEOPLE."

I have observed in my study that Jesus was about PEOPLE. Jesus NEVER forced anyone to do anything. He invited them to be in relationship. When asked a question, Jesus did not quote the rules of heaven, but focused on the relationship between us and God and our relationships with each other. In the same way, I have tried to lead the MEC in efforts to link PEOPLE with each other on many levels - and hopefully point them to a stronger relationship with God. Maryland Episcopal Cursillo (MEC) became more involved in the National Cursillo Community (NEC) by developing relationships with the National Committee (NECC) Regional Representative. The NEC views us as a VERY strong and vibrant movement, because of the PEOPLE involved. MEC supported the Diocese of Easton in developing and growing their Cursillo Community. A process for developing and mentoring rectors and core teams was established. The old Rector's Manual will be replaced as we complete development of a more user-friendly and realistic CORE TEAM Manual and Team Manual. "The way it's always been" will not work for the future. We knew we had to get back to basics once again.

MEC has increased the focus on being more INCLUSIVE and welcoming. The perception of Cursillo as a "secret society" is dwindling away. No, it is not gone yet, but it is no longer as prevalent today as in the past. I worked to encourage the rector selection process focus not only on experience in the movement, but also on a strong participation in the 4th Day.

Improving communication has been a major focus during my ministry. We are keeping PEOPLE connected by increasing distribution of the *Abrazo* from 4 to 6 times a year; sending out information over e-mail and posting current info on our web pages; and empowering prayer support for the entire Community.

Looking forward, MEC has to think and act in new ways. Ultreyas are now being held in Monocacy. Thanks to my wife Lynn and her team of CHAs, we no longer have to climb 6 flights of stairs to get to the closet on the 3rd floor! We have been challenged to think and act "out of the box" and developed new ways to accomplish goals over the Cursillo weekend without changing or diminishing the message of the weekend. In the future, with the building of the Lodge at Claggett, Cursillo's processes may need to change yet again.

So, now we are in the final stage: **Rejoice**. I rejoice with you in all of the blessings that God has given to us. As Molly Nussear taught me so well - praise Him when you win, and praise Him when you lose. Boy, have we come a long way! Let's **PRAISE HIM** in our growth and blessings!

Phillipians 1:6 affirms, "He who began a good work in you will be faithful to complete it." It is my prayer that you have been able to see God's hand in completing His work through me. But, we all know that God is not done with me yet. I do not intend to "fade away" into the sunset, but instead, I will stay connected and continue to support and mentor the leaders in this movement should they request my support.

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(State of MEC ... continued from page 7)

There are many bright spots in Cursillo. Bishop Sutton is a Cursillista, having served as Spiritual Advisor on a number of teams. As you heard earlier today, he has expressed excitement and support for this movement. The Secretariat will be meeting with him to discuss his vision for Cursillo and the Pastoral Plan.

One of the projects that's been in the works for awhile is the rewriting of the weekend Rector's manual. We are pleased to present the first edition of the Core Team Manual that now includes 4 NEC brochures, the Core Team Manual, and the rewritten team manual. This revised manual, prior to review and approval by the Secretariat, was reviewed by 9 members of laity, 9 clergy, and 2 members of the National Episcopal Cursillo Committee to ensure consistency with NEC policy, ease of use and understanding, and to give these documents an impartial review. We are grateful to all those who reviewed these with a critical eye, giving us valuable feedback. Our hope is that the new Core Team Manual will be an excellent resource, not just for future weekend rectors and weekend core teams, but also for new and experienced team members. Maryland 97 will be the first weekend team to use these resources and procedures. We recognize that these manuals are a work in progress, and that changes will come as future weekends live into using them.

Another project that's still in the works is the Cursillo database and directory. Marjie Mack has been working on this hopes to have a preliminary list that can be circulated for accuracy in the near future. Our goal is to have a directory of all Cursillistas by the end of 2009.

We are planning to conduct a Music Workshop in 2009. This seminar will focus on supporting current and new music leaders, in leading worship, discussing music licensing, as well as exchanging ideas. We hope to make this a FUN event that will help us find even more ways to use music to praise God in Cursillo.

We are pleased and excited to announce that the Maryland Episcopal Cursillo has been asked to host the annual Northeast District National Episcopal Cursillo meeting which is open to all Cursillistas who are interested in learning more about the region's activities. The meeting will be held on May 15 and 16, 2009, at a location yet to be determined. Last year's meeting in Ambler, Pennsylvania was attended by representatives from the dioceses of Central New York, Western New York, Long Island, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Southern Virginia. We enjoyed opportunities to meet these Cursillistas from other dioceses and share information and ideas.

In a couple weeks, I will represent the Diocese of Maryland at the National Episcopal Cursillo Seminar in Daytona Beach where I will attend workshops and meet Cursillistas from around the country. This conference is another opportunity for us to gather ideas to bring back to Maryland. We also hope to be able to send both Tim and me to the 2009 seminar in San Antonio.

2009 marks the 30-year anniversary of Cursillo in the Diocese of Maryland. We've come a long way since Maryland #1. I ask that we prayerfully and intentionally water the seeds of Cursillo so that we may bloom where we are planted, and celebrate many more years of Cursillo in the Diocese of Maryland.

Ultreya!
— **Emerson Champion**



(Reflections ... continued from page 8)

I do not know where or how God is calling me to develop my relationship with Him and with others. As with all things, it is God's hands and God's time. I have been blessed to journey with many spirit-filled apostles striving to forward Christ in other's lives through love, support, and grace. To those that I have angered or disappointed or wronged, I ask your forgiveness. For those I have lifted up, don't thank me - **Thank GOD** who works in me. And give God **your** best in whatever you are called to do.

I thank God for all of those who mentored me, stood with me, put up with me, argued with me, prayed *with* me and *for* me - ALL along my journey and on my ongoing journey.

I am proud of each and every leader in this movement. I spoke earlier to the purpose of my ministry as Lay Director. Now, in this new season, I ask that we, as a Community, embrace Emerson, Tim, the Secretariat, and Servant Community in moving toward GROWING Cursillo in the lives of the people of our Diocese here in Maryland.

God has set the seeds in planting the garden; now, with God's help, it is time to grow.

Ultreya!
— **Steve French**

MARYLAND EPISCOPAL CURSILLO RESOURCE LIST

What gifts has God blessed you with that you will share with your brothers and sisters in Maryland Cursillo?
Please indicate areas of interest listed below and return this application to: ***Weekend Representative,
Lynn French, at lynmf@aol.com or 35 Dihedral Drive, Middle River, MD 21220***

Name _____ Date _____
E-mail address _____
Phone: Home _____ Cell _____
Which weekend did you attend? _____ Teams served? _____

<p><u>Music</u></p> <p>_____ Play a musical instrument. What type(s) _____ _____ Interested in serving on the music team for a weekend. (Must also submit an application)</p>	<p><u>Communications</u></p> <p>_____ Website Design and update _____ Assist with database management _____ Assist with Abrazo, brochure production _____ Assist with assembling and mailings _____ Write articles for the Abrazo _____ Bilingual, what language _____</p>
<p><u>Skill and Talent in weekend preparation</u></p> <p>_____ Team Shirts ___ new team member ___ add on _____ Bake Communion Bread _____ Cord for wooden cross _____ Able make weekend buttons _____ Talent with design graphics, art. _____ Make beds on Thursday of weekend _____ Make Placemats</p>	<p><u>Assist on the Cursillo Weekend</u></p> <p>_____ Assist Core team over the weekend (require staying on campus) _____ Assist set up for Agape _____ Assist clean up for Agape _____ Photographer for weekend photo (requires standing on ladder)</p>
<p><u>Forth Day Workshop</u></p> <p>_____ Leadership team _____ Workshop team _____ Give a talk _____ Welcoming _____ Food set up and or clean up _____ Set up and or clean up _____ Lead music</p>	<p><u>Serve the Secretariat or Servant Community</u></p> <p>_____ Area Representative _____ Palanca Coordinator _____ Treasurer _____ 4th Day Representative _____ Comptroller _____ Music Coordinator _____ Secretary _____ Asst Lay Director _____ Stewardship _____ Pre Cursillo _____ Weekend Representative</p>
<p><u>Ultreya Support</u></p> <p>_____ Witness Speaker Which Ultreya(s)? _____ _____ Lead an Ultreya Which Ultreya(s)? _____ _____ Lead music at an Ultreya Which Ultreya(s)? _____</p>	<p><u>Other gifts or talents you are willing share with the Cursillo Community</u></p>

Secretariat 2008

Lay Director	Emerson Champion
Assistant Lay Director	Tim Welden
Secretary	Carol Gooden
Treasurer	Dick Mitchell
Comptroller	Debbie Bargar
Servant Community Dir	Karen Burdnell
Spiritual Advisor	The Rev. Becki Neumann
Northeast Area Rep	<i>[Open]</i>
Western Area Rep	Fran Nicholls
Metro North Area Rep	<i>[Open]</i>
Central Area Rep	Becky Fisher
Metro South Area Rep	Jim Stultz
Southern Area Rep	Earl Buffaloe

Servant Community 2008

Servant Community Dir.	Karen Burdnell
Pre-Cursillo Rep	Robin Mayfield
Weekend Rep	Lynn French
4th Day Coordinator	Anne Arey
Palanca Coordinator	Liz Brodell
Music Coordinator	Ruth Anne Champion
Spiritual Advisor	The Rev. Marshall Thompson
Comm. Coordinator	<i>[Open]</i>
Website Editor	Shannon Stultz
Abrazo Editor	Pamela Blyth
Communications	Emerson Champion

Are You on the Email List ?

Maryland Episcopal Cursillo maintains an email list that is used to send out prayer requests, Ultreya and other event reminders, and notices of interest to the Cursillo Community. All messages are kept brief. If you are interested in receiving Cursillo emails, please send your name and email address to Emerson Champion, Cursillo Email List Coordinator, at echampio@gmail.com

Comptroller Address

If you are reading this on line, or the envelope is missing, you may send green palanca to:

Comptroller, Maryland Episcopal Cursillo
 % Church of the Ascension
 23 North Court St
 Westminster, MD 21157

Don't Miss Important Info!

Please send changes in your contact information to:

Emerson Champion
 Cursillo Communications Coordinator
 8068 Armiger Dr, Pasadena, MD 21122
 or send an email to echampio@gmail.com



Monthly Ultreyas



1st Sunday, 6:30 PM

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
 1101 Bay Ridge Ave, Annapolis, MD
 Contact: Mary Beth Dent (410-267-9394)

1st Sunday, 2:00 PM

St. John's Episcopal Church
 52 Broadway, Frostburg, MD
 Contact: Daphne Gooding (301-689-5524)

1st Saturday, 7:00 PM

Christ the King Episcopal Church
 1930 Brookdale Road, Woodlawn, MD
 Contact: Jim Stultz (410-636-7377)

2nd Sunday, 7:00 PM

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
 3695 Rogers Ave, Ellicott City, MD
 Contact: Greg Fraser

2nd Sunday, 4:30 PM (Quarterly Rotating)

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Lappans (Mar/Sep)
 St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Hancock (Jun/Dec)
 Contact: Stu Scarborough (301-293-1447)

2nd Friday, 7:30 PM

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
 1108 Providence Rd, Towson, MD
 Contact: Alex & Kathy Dzbinski (410-252-7791)

3rd Sunday, Noon

Christ Episcopal Church
 3100 Broome's Island Rd, Port Republic, MD
 Contact: Murray Cheston (410-326-3596)

3rd Sunday, 5 PM

St. John's Episcopal Church
 101 South Prospect St, Hagerstown, MD
 Contact: Bruce & The Rev. Becki+ Neumann

3rd Friday, 7 PM

St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal Church
 375 Benfield Road, Severna Park, MD
 Contact: Wadi Williams

4th Friday, 7:30 PM

St. James' Episcopal Church
 5757 Solomons Island Rd, Lothian, MD
 Contact: Joe Carta



The Diocese of Maryland
 Maryland Episcopal Cursillo
 8068 Armiger Dr
 Pasadena, MD 21122

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DATED MATERIAL — DO NOT DELAY

Mark Your Calendar

<i>Come To The Waters</i> – Seminar _____	October 23 – 26, Daytona Beach, FL
MD 96 Cursillo Weekend _____	November 6 – 9, Bishop Claggett Center
<i>Las Mananitas for MD 96</i> _____	November 9, 6:45 am, Bishop Claggett Center
<i>Clausura for MD 96</i> _____	November 9, 3:45 pm, Bishop Claggett Center
MD 96 Reunion Ultreya _____	To Be Announced
4th Day Workshop _____	January 12, 9:00 am, St. James, Lothian, MD
MD 97 Candidate Application Deadline _____	March 24, 2009
MD 97 Cursillo Weekend _____	April 23 - 26, 2009, Bishop Claggett Center

Make A Friend, Be A Friend, Bring A Friend To Christ